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HOUSE BILL 318

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Gloria C. Vaughn

AN ACT

**RELATING TO EDUCATION; ESTABLISHING A ONE-MINUTE PERIOD OF
SILENCE IN THE CLASSROOM**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] DAILY OBSERVANCE OF ONE MINUTE OF SILENCE. --

A. In order that the right of every student to the free exercise of religion be guaranteed within the public schools and that the freedom of each individual student be subject to the least possible pressure from the state either to engage in or refrain from religious observation on school grounds, the state board shall require all school districts to establish the daily observance of one minute of silence in each

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 classroom of the district.

2 B. During the one-minute period of silence, the
3 teacher responsible for each classroom shall take care that all
4 students remain seated and silent and make no distracting
5 display, to the end that each student may, in the exercise of
6 his individual choice, meditate, pray or engage in any other
7 silent activity that does not interfere with, distract or
8 impede other students in the like exercise of individual
9 choice. "